

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS TITLE 36, CHAPTER I



Closure imposed

under the discretionary authority of the

Superintendent

In accordance with Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 1.5, authorized by Title 16, United States Code, Section 3, the following temporary closure is established for the proper management, protection, government, and public use of the portion of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. This discretionary regulation is in addition to the other regulations published in Title 36, CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 2 through 7.

The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is a 70,000-acre unit of the National Park System that encompasses 40 miles of the middle Delaware River valley, up to the ridges of the mountains along the river in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The park has a unique combination of natural and cultural features that collectively offer recreational opportunities for public use and enjoyment. Within the boundaries of DEWA is the Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River, a unit of the National Park System, which was designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and is administered by DEWA.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission has temporarily closed all hunting and trapping seasons within seven townships in northeastern Pennsylvania, where the search continues for a fugitive wanted in the shooting death of a state police trooper.

On October 1, 2014, the Game Commission Executive Director issued an executive order to close temporarily the hunting and trapping seasons within Price, Barrett and Paradise townships in Monroe County; and Blooming Grove, Porter, Lehman and Greene townships in Pike County.

The closure affects all private and public lands, including the portions of State Game Lands 180, 183 and 221 located within those townships. Those portions of game lands are closed to all public access while the executive order is in effect.

Hunting and trapping seasons will remain closed in the identified townships until the executive order is lifted, which will be announced by the Game Commission in a statewide news release that will be posted on the agency's website at the time it is issued.

The closure was initiated after the Pennsylvania State Police advised on Tuesday that troopers who are part of the search for fugitive Eric Frein had uncovered explosive devices that apparently were left behind in wooded areas by the fugitive, and would pose an obvious danger to anyone who would encounter them.

The discovery of the devices, and the danger associated with the search effort in general, would pose too great a risk to hunters, trappers and members of the general public.

The Pennsylvania Game and Wildlife Code authorizes the Game Commission to close any hunting or trapping season, or otherwise take necessary action, to assure the purposes of the code, including assuring the health and safety of the persons who hunt or take game and wildlife.

By closing the hunting seasons in the area of the search, the Game Commission hopes to remove risks to human safety, and ensure there will be no interference in the effort to apprehend Frein.

36 C.F.R. 2.2(b)(4) states that where hunting is authorized, such activities shall be conducted in accordance with Federal law and the laws of the State within whose exterior boundaries a park area or a portion thereof is located. The state of Pennsylvania has taken legal action to curtail the hunting season in the affected areas, therefore the Delaware Water Gap NRA will act in accordance with the state's legal action.

§1.5 Closure and Public Use Limits

1.5(a)(1) Lehman Township within the boundaries of Delaware Water Gap NRA to Hunting

The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area within Lehman Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania, all areas that lay within the boundaries of Creek Road north to Milepost 10 on U.S. Route 209 and between the Delaware River Corridor to Pennsylvania State Route 2001 (Old Milford Road).

10/2/14

